



Litter Cuts Road Building

Americans are an extravagant people. We pay in Iowa a total of eight cents a gallon in gasoline tax, with the money earmarked for the road use tax fund to build better roads, streets and highways.

Then we get in our cars, drive out on these roads and highways, and toss everything we don't want out the car windows. Last year the Iowa Highway Commission spent \$196,000 to pick up all this litter from along the rights-of-way of the primary and interstate highways.

The 99 counties probably had to dip into their road funds for an amount totaling even more than the state bill to pick up beer cans, pop bottles and sundry other items blithely tossed out by motorists.

This money was not available to build and maintain the thoroughfares we so badly need to keep our highly motorized economy moving.

Severin

Silly. Isn't it?

This 'Litter' Topped All

Carl Schach, planning and safety engineer for the State Highway Commission, recalled that a number of years ago the Commission maintained turn-outs along primary highways where there were steel barrels the Commission hoped motorists would use to dispose of unwanted litter.

The pay-off came, Schach recalls, when someone dumped a cast-off piano beside one of these refuse barrels for Commission employees to haul away.

Lighting for Rural Intersections

A number of county engineers in Iowa have been trying to get the Iowa Highway Commission to participate in the cost of installation of lighting at heavily used primary-secondary road intersections.

Some of these intersections are hazardous because a motorist traveling on a secondary road at night frequently comes on a primary intersection stop sign so quickly he does not get his car stopped before entering the intersection.

THE COMMISSION HAS finally approved the principle of state participation with the counties in the cost of installing these lights. But the formula approved to compute the amount of state participation is so complex that Commission Chairman Harry Bradley Jr. said that a lot of county officials will take one look at the formula and then give up asking state aid.

If my computations are correct, counties could receive as much as 90 per cent state participation in the cost of installing lighting at an intersection if the hazard is great enough.

Once installed, however, the counties will be stuck with maintenance of the lights plus energy costs.

Reds Vow No Compromise On Eve of Saturday Talks

PARIS (AP) — A spokesman for the North Vietnamese delegation to the Paris peace talks said Friday "there is no compromise possible" on his government's demand that the United States stop all bombing and attacks on its territory without any conditions.

The spokesman said Ambassador Xuan Thuy will go into Saturday's third meeting with a new demand that all attacks be stopped.

"We will ask it again and again until it comes to pass," Nguyen Van Sao told newsmen.

U.S. Asks 'Restraint'

U.S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman has said North Vietnam must show some "restraint" in its military actions to justify elimination of all bombing. He called for restoration of the buffer zone between North and South Vietnam and for a scaling down of infiltration.

A U.S. spokesman said a decision to halt the bombing would be made only at the highest level—by President Johnson—and on the basis of the total situation at the time.

Asked what North Vietnam

would do to get a bombing halt, Sao said: "The United States must stop the bombing. There is no compromise possible on this issue."

U.S. Hopeful Earlier

Earlier a spokesman had said the United States would go into Saturday's session with hope that it will "move us closer" to ending the war in Southeast Asia.

William J. Jordan, member of the U.S. delegation, told a news conference: "I would say our attitude is one of hope that tomorrow's meeting and successive meetings will move us closer to a solution of the basic problem we face—to reach a just and lasting peace for Vietnam."

The Saturday meeting will be the third full-scale session since the talks started Monday.

A North Vietnamese spokesman said he saw no possibility of going into completely private discussions on Saturday but did not know what the prospects were thereafter. The United States has been urging that the talks move out of the phase of

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Allies End Big Viet Sweep

Think Reds Returning to Key Valley

PHU BAI, Vietnam (AP) — The allies ended their month-long sweep through the A Shau Valley Friday and North Vietnamese were believed moving back to the area, their biggest supply and staging base in South Vietnam. U.S. officers said the drive through the valley had killed 726 enemy troops. More than 50 miles east of the valley, U.S. Marines were engaged in heavy fighting for the

second day south of Da Nang, the Leatherneck base. Reports from the field said the Marines killed 130 North Vietnamese while suffering 25 dead and a number wounded. This pushed the two-day toll to 251 North Vietnamese and 51 Marines killed.

Elite Red Units

Marine sources identified the enemy units as being from the 308th North Vietnamese Division, an elite one that made the final assault on Dien Bien Phu, a battle that drove the French out of Indochina in 1954.

Lt. Gen. William L. Rosson, the U.S. commander of the big allied invasion into the enemy

stronghold southwest of Hue, said his forces turned up a fourth of the enemy supplies stockpiled inside the 25-mile-long valley.

U.S. Losses

The cost, according to the U.S. Command, included 139 Americans killed, 662 wounded seriously enough to require hospitalization, 21 helicopters destroyed and 108 damaged.

U.S. commanders said the allied force—estimated earlier at more than 15,000 men—closed out the operation in the valley 370 miles northeast of Saigon because the approaching monsoon rains were about to cut off their air support.

Although there was no official word because of security requirements, it was assumed that U.S. ambush patrols and other such units remained in the general area. Maj. Gen. John J. Tolson, whose 1st Air Cavalry Division on April 19 made the first allied invasion into the valley in two years, said Hanoi should realize American forces can go back into the valley any time.

Direct New Invasion

Another invasion soon appeared unlikely, however. April and May are the only two months of the year when the

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NE Iowa Death Toll May Rise



CHARLES CITY CREW BEGINS CLEANUP—Crews at Charles City got a good look at the job in front of them Thursday morning as daylight exposed the extensive damage from Wednesday's killer tornado. Residents returned to their homes and began salvaging whatever possible Thursday from the shells of their houses. Mayor Harry Brenton estimates damage would reach at least \$20 million.

Battered Communities Start To Remove Twister's Rubble

By VERL SANDERSON
Assistant State Editor

The emotionally painful task of shoveling litter—once personal belongings—from Maynard and Oelwein streets and lots began Thursday as hundreds of volunteers arrived throughout the day to help.

Efforts to coordinate the operations functioned successfully after a few hours.

Operation headquarters at the Oelwein telephone office carried a constant flow of volunteers arriving to receive assignments.

Traffic Problems

By 10 a.m. Thursday, sightseers and Hwy. 150's normal traffic flow were causing problems at Oelwein.

Although every paved and graveled road into Oelwein was

blocked by the Iowa Highway Patrol and the National Guard,

SBA Okays Disaster Loans

(Special to Courier)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Small Business Administration (SBA) Friday afternoon declared all areas in Iowa, damaged by tornadoes this week, as disaster-loan areas.

With the designation, long-term, low-interest loans will be available to individuals, home owners, businesses and non-profit organizations.

The SBA will establish temporary offices in the disaster area, according to Congressman John Culver.

relatives and the curious managed to get through some points, blocking trucks carting away debris and trees and hindering equipment.

Increased surveillance alleviated the traffic situation somewhat by noon.

Maynard Services

Meanwhile, funeral services for the Maynard victims, Mrs. Louis Ponsar and Glenda Kelley, were set.

Services for Mrs. Louis Ponsar, 77, will be at 3 p. m. Saturday at United Presbyterian

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Ask Candidates For Attitudes On Urban Needs

Mayor Lloyd Turner said Friday that a questionnaire was being sent to all candidates in the September primary soliciting their views on matters affecting cities in Iowa. Story on page 3.

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Tornado Cleanup Begins

Charles City, Oelwein Still Seeking Men and Equipment

(Other Tornado Stories on Pages 6, 7 and 12)

Hundreds of weary workers Friday combed the wreckage left by tornadoes that swept through Northeast Iowa, fearful that the death toll would climb higher than the 18 deaths reported thus far.

The storms pounced out of inky clouds on Charles City, Oelwein, Maynard, Elma and numerous farm areas late Wednesday, ripping swaths of havoc with damage estimated at \$33 million to private property and damage to public

facilities set at \$5 million.

Even as Gov. Harold Hughes asked President Johnson for federal assistance, the recovery effort in the ravaged cities continued.

Officials in Charles City and Oelwein issued urgent pleas for men and heavy equipment to help with the task of clearing away rubble. The most pressing needs are dump trucks, chain

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Huge Rebuilding Job Faces Charles City

Debris Fills Most of City

By CAROLYN HOLCOMB
Courier Staff Writer

CHARLES CITY — The sun broke through the cloud cover that had hung over Charles City since 4:47 p. m. Wednesday at 6 p. m. Thursday.

And never was a town more in need of sun.

It lighted the tons of debris, the smashed and roofless homes, the crumpled automobiles.

It shone on the telephone workers, the utility servicemen and the national guardsmen that walked the streets with fixed bayonets.

And it shone as courage in the faces of Charles Cityans who were only beginning to realize what hit their town late Wednesday afternoon.

A tornado, some say two

there were three — roared through this seven-square mile city and when the fat funnel cloud spun past the city limits on north Grand Ave. only four square miles were left undamaged.

Three square miles in the

Full page of pictures on page 7 shows NE Iowans picking up the pieces after Wednesday night's devastating tornadoes.

heart of the town's business, governmental and residential district were demolished — pancaked by the twisting, roaring force that came into town from the southwest at 4:47 p. m.

Ironically, some of the hardest hit buildings were the

First Baptist Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, the First Congregational Church and the Central Methodist Church; McKinley Elementary School, the Manual Arts Building at Central Elementary School and Washington Elementary School; and a low-cost housing project for the elderly which had been held up as a model for the rest of the state.

Left relatively unscathed were nightclubs and taverns. School, both public and parochial, was closed off "until further notice."

Clothing, food and medical supplies were being fed into the city at an astonishing rate with heaviest contributors reported as Des Moines and Mason City.

Refugee centers at St. John's Lutheran Church and the Immaculate Conception School were caring for the homeless. The response to a plea for clothing was so great the Red Cross asked donors to "hold

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MAYNARD LITTER — A single tree, plucked of its limbs and bark, stands alone in the littered yard of the new and demolished \$120,000 St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Maynard with a portion of the church wall in front.

The church was to be occupied Sunday. In background is the Maynard Cooperative Elevator, stripped of its siding. Two persons died from injuries in the Maynard twister.

Waterloo Welcomes State High Twelve Convention